

WALL GRAPHIC PREPARATION

How to prepare for your next wall graphic installation:

Vinyl wall graphics are an easy, cost-effective way to add your unique touch to just about any space. However, when these spaces aren't prepared correctly, graphics can look bad, peel off or even damage the wall underneath. When you're thinking about utilizing wall graphics in your next project, be sure to consider the following:



Look for imperfections

Scratches, nail holes, dents, scuffs or peeling paint on a wall can keep your vinyl graphic from adhering to that wall properly. Make sure that the surface that you're planning on applying these graphics too has been closely examined for such imperfections and had any trouble spots cleaned or fixed. If you need to repaint the wall, it's best to wait at least a week – preferably longer – before applying your graphics, to ensure the paint is fully dried and set (also known as gassing).

Pick your wall carefully

The ideal surface for a vinyl graphic installation is a smooth, clean, flat wall. However, walls with unique textures can still be worked with! Textured walls or ones made with different kinds of materials – such as cinder block, wood or brick – can still have vinyl graphics applied to them. However, these surfaces may require a specific type of vinyl to ensure that your design looks its best. When planning out your wall graphics, be sure to take note of what kind of materials and textures your surface will consist of.





Work with a team of pros

It may seem easy to install wall graphics yourself, but it's tricker than you might think! An improper installation can lead to your graphics being wrinkled or crooked on your work surface, or peeling on the edges that can results in pieces of the graphic being torn off. When you work with an experienced team of design professionals, you'll ensure your final graphic looks its best and lasts as long as possible!

WALL GRAPHIC MAINTENANCE

What you need to extend the life of your graphics:

Wall graphics may seem like an easy choice – and thanks to their versatility and affordability, they are! But when you want your investment to look their best for as long as possible, taking the right steps to maximize your graphic's lifespan may seem like a challenge. We can help! Consider the following tips for when it's time to maintain your wall graphics:



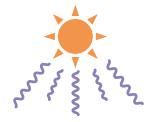
Avoid harsh chemicals

Cleaning your wall graphics should be done without the use of harsh solvent cleaners, as these can impact both the look of your graphics as well as the adhesive that enables them to stick. Instead, take care to dust them as necessary, or gently wipe away any dirt with a soft, clean, damp cloth.

Maintain a steady temperature

Wall surfaces that are too hot or too cold can cause wall graphics to lose their ability to stick; areas that are too warm can cause the adhesive to become too soft, while those that are too cold cause it to become hard and brittle. Surfaces that are near any exterior walls or near active air vents may need to be re-evaluated for graphic placement accordingly.





Beware ultraviolet rays

Nothing will fade out your wall graphics faster than constant exposure to heavy sunlight! UV rays will sap the vibrancy from your design and require more frequent replacements of your graphics. Accordingly, you want to make sure you're avoiding placing these graphics near any windows or doors that let in a lot of direct natural light.

With help from your friends at True Install, preparing your space and caring for your graphics is easier than ever. Contact us to discuss your needs and to start seeing what vinyl graphics can do for your space!

